

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

117 N. 2nd Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Phone: 304.623.3397

email: cfumc@citynet.net

Rev. Michael Q. Atkinson, Lead Pastor

Rev. Harry Jenkins, Associate Pastor

"A Holy, Healthy, and Loving Community Striving to Know Christ and to Make Christ Known"



June 18, 2023
Father's Day Sunday

WORDS OF WELCOME ----- Pastor Michael Atkinson

ORGAN PRELUDE ----- -Dr. Jessica Scott

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Welcome, you who are called as disciples of Christ!

Is anything too wonderful for our God?

People: **Nothing is too wonderful for God who saves us and calls us!**

Leader: We remember the goodness of God who promised Abraham a multitude of descendants and then showed up at Abraham's door to announce that the promise would be fulfilled.

People: **Nothing is too wonderful for God who promises and fulfills promises!**

Leader: We remember the compassion of Jesus who noticed the distress of his neighbors and acted to bring them healing and wholeness.

People: **Nothing is too wonderful for God who heals and restores the distressed!**

Leader: We remember the invitation the Spirit extends to us to join in God's work of compassionate community building.

People: **Nothing is too wonderful for God who empowers us to transform strangers into community through active love.**

Leader: As we worship, may we receive the promise, the compassion, and the invitation to be disciples of Christ who join in God's work of making disciples for the transformation of our households, our community, and our world.

People: **Because nothing is too wonderful for our God! Amen.**

*HYMN #116 -----“The God of Abraham Praise”

FATHERS’ DAY RECOGNITION

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS WITH THE PASTOR-----Pastor Atkinson

PRAYER SHAW BLESSING

May God's grace be upon this shawl...
warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing.
May this mantle be a safe haven... a sacred place of security and well-being...
sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones.
May the one who receives this shawl be cradled in hope,
kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in love. Blessed Be! AMEN

OFFERTORY MUSIC ----- “Sweet Hour of Prayer” (text #496)
First United Methodist Women’s Ensemble

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON -----Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

THE LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground.

He said, “If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant.”

“Very well,” they answered, “do as you say.”

So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. “Quick,” he said, “get three seahs of the finest flour and knead it and bake some bread.”

Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant who hurried to prepare it. He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

“Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him.

“There, in the tent,” he said.

Then one of them said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son.”

Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already very old, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, “After I am worn out and my lord is old, will I now have this pleasure?”

Then the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Will I really have a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year, and Sarah will have a son.”

Sarah was afraid, so she lied and said, “I did not laugh.”

But he said, “Yes, you did laugh.”

Now the LORD was gracious to Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah what he had promised. Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the very time God had promised him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah bore him. When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Sarah said, “God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me.” And she added, “Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.”

SERMON -----“Is It Really Possible?” -----Pastor Atkinson

*HYMN #141-----”Children of the Heavenly Father”

BENEDICTION

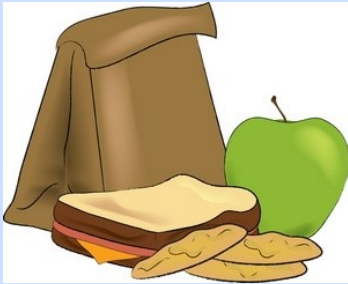
ORGAN POSTLUDE ----- Dr. Scott

If you know of someone who is in the hospital, nursing home, or has a need from the church, please let Pastor Atkinson or Rev. Jenkins know.

Please feel free to call or send a text to....

Pastor Michael Atkinson at 304-771-3309 or Reverend Harry Jenkins at 304-280-0592

Contact Tammy Matheny at 304-476-2015
If you would like information about our Prayer Chain.



Grab and Go Lunches

The "Grab and Go" lunch ministry has resumed.
And your help is needed!

If you can provide sack lunches for 24 persons
on Friday afternoons at 2:30 p.m.
please contact Anita Burns at 304-23-1279

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

NO Youth meeting this evening
OFFICES CLOSED on Tuesday for WV Day
NO Monastic Meal this week --- See you June 27th!
NO Finance, NOR Outreach, NOR Church Council this month

June 22-- Prayer Shawl at 5:00 p.m.
June 25 -- Bell Choir Rehearsal at 9:30 a.m.
June 25 -- Youth Fellowship in the Parlor at 10:00 a.m.
June 25th -- Youth United here at FUMC at 4:00 p.m.

Twelve-Step Meetings (7 sessions each week)



CHURCH FAMILY BANQUET

Next Sunday, June 25th, following worship
you are invited to a prepared lasagna dinner -- all for free!
This celebration is to honor Rev. Harry Jenkins (and Clarice!)
as he retires as our Associate Pastor.



WWW.CFUMC.ORG



cfumc@citynet.net



First United Methodist Church — Clarksburg



(follow us on Facebook) First United Methodist Church of Clarksburg